

REMARKS

Applicants and the undersigned are most grateful for the time and effort accorded the instant application by the Examiner. Claims 57-90 were pending at the time of the outstanding Office Action. All pending claims stand finally rejected. The Office is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections present in the outstanding Office Action.

On February 3, 2009, Applicants' representatives conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner. The claims and the references of record were discussed and it was agreed that the claim amendments presented herein appeared to overcome the references of record and that Applicants should proceed to file an Amendment After Final for the Examiner's consideration.

It should be noted that Applicants are not conceding in this application the claims amended herein are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications. Applicants specifically state no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 57-90 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsujimoto (U.S. Patent No. 7,238,732, hereinafter "Tsujimoto") in view of Harayama et al.

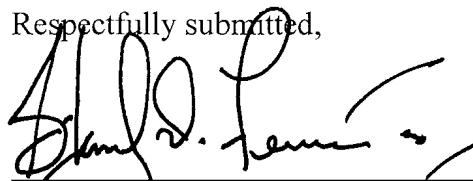
(U.S. Patent No. 5,630,006, hereinafter "Harayama"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections.

Applicants respectfully submit that at the very least, the combination of references fails to teach or suggest a "fast play option" and "standard play option". In order to clarify this, and solely in an effort to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended the claims herein. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims, as amended, are not taught or suggested by the combined references. Applicants therefore respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections and submit that the case is in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims are in condition for allowance. Notice to the effect is hereby earnestly solicited. **If the claims are not in condition for immediate allowance, the Applicants respectfully request the courtesy of a telephone interview prior to the issuance of any further Action.**

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley D. Ference III
Registration No. 33,879

Customer No. 77755
FERENCE & ASSOCIATES LLC
409 Broad Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143
(412) 741-8400
(412) 741-9292 - Facsimile

Attorneys for Applicants